



How low can you go?

A community member moves to a Caribbean rhythm while winning the Limbo Dance Contest in the adults' category, during an Aloha Luau, held in the post exchange parking lot, in observance of Asian Pacific American Heritage month. The acrobatic dance, which was created on the island of Trinidad, originally was a dance to help the soul of a dead loved one to flee the transitional condition of limbo. The Aloha Luau was sponsored by AAFES and other activities included hula-hoop contests, dance demonstrations and more. See page 4 for more. (Photo by Laura Kreider)

Community mourns Soldier killed by IED in Afghanistan

By Diana Bahr
Outlook Editor

A memorial service was held Thursday at the post chapel for infantryman Pfc. Steven Tucker, who died May 21 from wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device attack while on patrol in Afghanistan.

Tucker was born in Victoria Texas, Jan. 6, 1986 and enlisted in the Army after graduation from high school.

Upon completion of basic training and advanced individual training, Tucker entered airborne training at Fort Benning, Ga.

He arrived in Vicenza in January and was assigned to Able Company, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne).

Tucker deployed to Afghanistan with his fellow Soldiers in March. While on a mission in Deh Chopan, he demonstrated an ability to adapt quickly to a situation when he took over a crew-served weapon and engaged anti-coalition forces, thus enabling his platoon to maneuver into position and fix the enemy.

It was during this conflict that Tucker displayed a fierce bravery, as he continued to fire on the enemy while they attempted to get a fix on his position.

At the memorial service, Tucker was remembered as a young Soldier who demonstrated maturity beyond his 19 years.

Tucker died while performing his duties as an



Spc. Steven G. Tucker (Photo by Barbara Romano, 7th Army Training Center Photo Lab)

infantryman – and as Soldier who’s mission it was to establish and preserve the peace in Afghanistan.

He is survived by his parents, Charles and Rowena Tucker.

Overseas realignment proceeding in ‘deliberate, thoughtful manner’

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department is moving forward with plans to reshape its force structure overseas through close coordination with Congress, other government agencies and U.S. allies and partners, defense officials told Pentagon reporters in Washington, D.C., recently.

The global defense posture review is being undertaken as a “deliberate, thoughtful and flexible” process that meets 21st-century threats and improves troops’ quality of life, according to Ryan Henry, principal deputy undersecretary of defense for policy.

Henry joined Ray DuBois, acting undersecretary of the Army, in countering charges by the Commission on Review of Overseas Military Facility Structure of the United States that DoD is moving ahead too quickly and without sufficient coordination. The independent commission released its report last week and held a news conference on its findings May 9.

DoD welcomes the commission’s support for the global posture realignment, announced last August by President Bush, Henry said. The plan calls for the return of up to 70,000 troops and 100,000 family members and civilian employees currently based overseas to the United States.

“We believe the commission’s report reflects an earnest effort to assess the military facility structures of the United States overseas,” Henry said. “It recognizes that our overseas presence must reflect the challenges we face in the 21st century.”

In announcing the initiative last summer, Bush said the U.S. force structure overseas reflects Cold War threats, not those that exist today.

Basing more troops in the United States and taking advantage of new technologies to quickly deploy them and their increased combat power will result in “a more agile and flexible force,” the president said.

During today’s Pentagon briefing, Henry re-emphasized the need for flexibility of U.S. forces and disputed the commission’s assertion that global posturing needs to

See ‘Realignment’ on page 4

Caserma Ederle road work update

From now through about June 4 traffic is restricted to one lane from the Post Office to the Ederle Inn.

Motorists driving past the post office toward the Ederle Inn will be required to continue driving down past the sports field and come back along 9th Street-the road that runs in front of the U.S. Army Health Clinic-Vicenza and Fitness Center.

There will be no parking on Olson Avenue near the

post office and parking at the Vicenza Schools will be extremely limited.

These dates are subject to weather conditions, naturally if we experience rain, the road may be closed longer.

The command asks that community members use caution while driving or walking in these congested areas and be alert to construction vehicles and pedestrians.

Have a say in the size of your COLA

By Nicolas White
Housing Programs Manager
Press Release

You can help determine the COLA rate for Vicenza. From now until June 17, a Living Pattern Survey is being conducted in communities across Europe, to include Vicenza. All soldiers – regardless of service affiliation – with command-sponsored dependents are strongly encouraged to participate. Spouses may complete the survey on behalf of their military sponsor. To take the survey, simply log on to <https://www.perdiem.osd.mil/oscola/lps/germany/> and follow the instructions on the screen. When you are asked for a survey ticket number, choose any random 6-digit number.

The survey is completely anonymous. When you are asked for the location code, enter **IT073** – the Per Diem Committee’s code for Vicenza. Note that when you are asked to choose a store where you do most of your shopping from a list, the list is NOT all-inclusive. If you shop somewhere else, simply click “Other” and enter the store name manually. Survey responses will be collated and analyzed by the Per Diem Committee in the States. From that data, a Retail Price Schedule will be conducted. Based on this information, the Per Diem Committee will ensure Vicenza’s future COLA rates are equitably set and accurately reflect the actual purchasing patterns of our community, short-changed for our local market conditions.

Brigade Soldier receives direct commission



Spec. John Ciulla, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2d Brigade, 503d Infantry (Airborne), was sworn in as a commissioned officer by Maj. Gen. Steven Zabecki, SETAF Rear commander, in a ceremony held in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate courtroom. Ciulla received his Bachelor of Arts from Eckerd College in Florida and his law degree from Brooklyn Law School in New York. Ciulla was accepted into the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps in January 2005. As a result, he received a direct commission as a first lieutenant in the JAG Corps. Ciulla will report this month to the JAG Officer Basic Course in Charlottesville, Va. (Photo by Barbara Romano, 7th Army Training Center)

Seeing life from God’s view

For the next 36 weeks, the 22nd Area Support Group Chaplain’s Family Life Office, in partnership with deployed SETAF and 173rd Airborne Brigade chaplains, will write a series of devotional articles based on the best-selling book, “A Purpose Driven Life,” by Pastor Rick Warren. The intent of these articles is to offer deployed soldiers and their family members a devotional meditation which you can use for weekly discussion and to hopefully deepen your spiritual connection during the separation.

By Chaplain (Maj.) Leon Kircher
22nd ASG Family Life chaplain

“We don’t see things as they are, we see them as we are.”
—Anais Nin

Most of our efforts here on earth are self-directed. What’s in it for me? What do I get if I shop here? Where’s the best deal for me? When asked what people think about their life, some describe it as a circus, a mad dash to the grave, a wild ride on a roller coaster, or simply a journey. It’s easy to concentrate on ourselves and our ride through life. With the many ups and downs that take place it can become easy to concentrate on ourselves to the exclusion of those around us. How do we overcome this self-centeredness? Maybe it’s time to see how God views all of this! Rev. Warren talks about three metaphors that teach us God’s view of life. Life is a test, a trust, and a temporary assignment (pg. 42). We all face various tests. During

deployments, the test can sometimes be a choice that will enhance your relationships if chosen properly, or possibly destroy a relationship forever. Temptation is always out there! “Should I hang out with these people?” “Should I go to the club even when my husband (or wife) isn’t here?” Many people say: “Don’t worry, I can handle it.” When asked what’s wrong with that, I give people my “potato chip” rule. I love potato chips, so much so that I’d eat every one in sight if I was around them. So for my own health, weight, etc., I don’t keep potato chips in the house. If they’re not around, they won’t tempt me. Every choice you make matters. When you begin to realize that nothing is insignificant in your life, everything – and every choice – becomes significant for your development (pg 43). Every day becomes important and life is worth living. Trust develops when testing comes. Once we realize that everything we do is significant, we begin to better understand the great love God has for us all. We finally come to realize it’s not all about us. You can resign as manager of the universe. ***GOD’S GOT IT!*** You have what you have because of God – believe it or not! We don’t own this world, but we ought to treat it like we do. The same is true of your life and body. They’re not really yours, but take care of them like they are. Gospel great Kirk Franklin came out with a song a few years ago entitled: “God’s Property.” What better way to learn trust and to live life knowing that the Creator of this world also created YOU and that are forever in His care! God didn’t have to – He just did. We belong to Him. Trust Him to be your guide.

Community Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues that affect the community. If you have an issue that you would like to submit, visit the 22nd Area Support Group Web site at www.22asg.vicenza.army.mil and click on the Community Action Council link. This link provides you the opportunity to review issues that have been previously submitted and responded to by post agencies. There is also a form available for you to submit any new issue you would like addressed. If you have questions, call 634-5222 or 0444-71-5222 from off post. The command encourages you to identify yourself when submitting a CAC issue in order to be able to answer your concern directly. Childcare is offered during the CAC at \$2.50 per hour, per child for children ages 6 weeks through kindergarten from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Preregistration is required. Children will be cared for in the Child Development Center, Building 395. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services Central Registration. Call 634-7219 or stop by their new location in Davis Family Readiness Center. There is no CAC scheduled for the month of June. The next CAC is July 27 at 9 a.m. **Issue:** What are the chance of getting ice cream trucks to come through Villaggio? Or having summer hire teens use bicycles with carts and sell ice cream on Villaggio? They can use the ice cream sold at the

Villaggio Shoppette and commissary, which has already been inspected so supply should not be an issue. They can store it at the shoppette so they have an adequate supply. They can show up at summer events, and stop by the housing units during lunch. **Response from AAFES:** Great Idea! Unfortunately due to sanitation and health safety reasons, AAFES can not run this service as a direct operation as you suggest. We did however conduct research on an ice cream truck service, and found one source in Dueville, but they were not willing to provide the service due to staffing restraints at their local gelateria. We have not lost our hopes as we are trying to find other sources and we hope to have a positive answer in the near future as we believe this would be a value for the patrons on post and in Villaggio. **Issue:** Recently DPW removed old playground equipment on Villaggio such as the swings and slides. But they weren’t replaced. Are their plans to replace the old equipment? **Response from Directorate of Public Works:** Housing Division recently began work on a \$98,000 investment to upgrade six Villaggio playgrounds in the junior enlisted housing area on a priority basis. Plans have also been developed to upgrade other playground areas on Villaggio when funds become available. Some old playground equipment is being replaced with like items, and in many cases supplemental playground equipment is also being added to enhance play opportunities for the kids. New playground equipment being installed will have rubber tile safety surfaces

and include some items suitable for young children aged 3-6 years such as: toddlers swings, toddlers seesaws, spring rocking animals, play combination stations and an elephant slide. **Issue:** What is the status of funding for the Barracks/Office renovations while the Soldiers are deployed? I am concerned that the work may not be completed prior to the Soldiers return. Response from DPW: Barracks renovations are funded through what is called a “SRM” account. Recently, the Department of the Army has indicated that installations will be funded to the 90 percent level in the SRM account for this fiscal year. Additionally, barracks renovations are a high priority with Installation Management Agency-Europe and installation funding priority. Although not a done deal, this makes prospects for receiving funding for fixing up all barracks on Caserma Ederle high. We are continuing to work with IMA-Europe to ensure that any funding is received in sufficient time to allow the work to be accomplished prior to the re-deployment of our Soldiers back here. **Issue:** I went to the Central Processing Facility the other day and waited an hour before someone told me that I had to sign-in in order to receive service. Can more information or signs be made available to assist in navigating this facility? **Response from 22nd Area Support Group S1:** Signs are now posted in the waiting room announcing the hours of operation, and procedures of the CPF. The CPF manager also requisitioned

professional signs for both the interior and exterior of the building. Also on order are clear plastic slots that will hold information papers on each of the services that we provide. These additional signs and information papers should be in place soon. Our mission here at the CPF is to provide each customer first class customer service in assisting them to get through the different “systems and processes” that we provide. Within the CPF, we provide an Embassy Liaison Office, Siggiorino Office, ID Cards and DEERs, Installation Access Control, Installation Transportation Office, Drivers Training and Testing, Customs Office and in and out processing of newly arriving and departing soldiers. In a typical month, the CPF assists more than 2,400 customers in getting through these processes and systems. **Issue:** At a recent CAC, the dental clinic said that appointments were open to family members. Will these appointments also be extended to military retirees and civilians? **Response from Dental Command:** Since we have deferred routine dental care to family members for the past four months, we are limiting scheduled appointments to only active duty and their family members. Two dentists have left, and this summer, all but two of our dentists are PCS’ing. Until the turnover is complete and the access to care is reevaluated, we cannot offer retirees and/or civilians dental appointments. We will continue to provide emergency and standby space available care. However, if and when the access to care for our remaining active duty Soldiers and their family members reaches an acceptable level during this deployment cycle, we will open limited care appointments for retirees and civilians.

Space A travel - the original budget airlines

By Diana Bahr
Outlook Editor

Summer’s on our doorstep and school’s almost over...if you haven’t made plans for the summer and your spouse is deployed, you may want to consider Space Available travel.

Two representatives from Aviano Air Base’s Air Mobility Command, Staff Sgt. Simon Vasiliades and Sr. Airman Frank Lopez, shared the secrets of Space A travel with community members from Caserma Ederle Thursday.

Space Available travel, operated by the Air Force’s AMC, can give you top-shelf airline service to the United States for a fraction of what you might pay through a regular airline. While it’s often a convenient travel option for active duty members, there are specific guidelines that must be followed to travel Space-A.

Passenger status is based on certain categories of requirements for travel on AMC flights. The main Category 1 – is for personnel traveling on emergency leave (you must have a Red Cross emergency notification to qualify for this category); Category 3 is for Soldiers and family members traveling with the Soldiers who are on leave.

Category V is for family members traveling without a Soldier. Dependents who are flying in this category need a command sponsorship letter signed by their spouse’s commander, along with ID cards, passports, visas and/or soggiornos. This letter is good for 60 days from the date signed.

However, if your spouse is deployed for 120 days or more you are eligible for an upgrade, which entitles you to one round trip as a Category 3 passenger. How do you get the upgrade?

“Dependents need to get a letter from the European Command,” said Sr. Airman Frank Lopez, Aviano Airbase AMC personnel.

“It’s easier than it sounds. Spouses simply have to go apply through their sponsor’s commander, who then signs the letter. Once they have the EUCOM letter it’s good for one roundtrip upgrade to Category 3, and they can sign up 10 days prior to flying. However, the upgrade may only be used once during any 120-day period.”

Signing up for Space A travel may be done in person at Aviano, via fax (DSN 632-7782/comm. 0434-30-7782) or online at *spacea@aviano.af.mil*. But this only puts you on a list—it doesn’t guarantee a seat

“The earlier a passenger signs up, the better chance they have of reserving a Space-A spot,” said Lopez. “But, the very first thing clients need to do when they arrive at the AMC terminal is to sign in and be marked ‘present.’ Monday through Friday, we open the AMC desk at 7 a.m. At 7:30 a.m.; and weekends from 8 a.m. to noon.

“We begin calling names by category for flights,” he said. “ If they arrive after we begin calling names, they drop to the bottom of the list. It doesn’t matter if they were first on the list to sign up. It’s who’s actually present when we start roll call.”

When roll call starts, it is very important to pay attention when your category is called, according to Lopez. Once your category is passed, the traveler has to wait for all categories to be called. Then roll call will start again if there are seats still available.

For fees ranging from \$14-\$27 per person, Space-A passengers can fly one-way or round trip. Payment is by cash or check only—no Euro or credit cards are accepted. But unlike commercial airlines, everyone must have a seat – including infants.

However, there are certain things people need to be aware of before assuming that Space-A is the right way to go.

“Aviano flies only to Frankfurt and Baltimore Washington International Airports,” said Lopez. “And the command sponsorship letter is only good for travel to BWI. Once the client is at BWI, they must make reservations to fly to their final destination with a commercial carrier.”

Returning to Europe means going through the same procedure – in reverse.

Luggage requirements are almost identical to those used by commercial airlines. Clients are allowed to carry-on one small hand luggage and one personal bag (purse, laptop computer, etc.), and to stow two pieces of luggage per person, not to exceed 70 pounds per bag. Strollers can be used up to the airplane embarkation area and then are placed in the luggage hold.

Those passengers with children under the age of 2 are encouraged to bring car seats with them. The car seats and strollers are not counted as luggage. Pets are not allowed to fly Space A.

For force protection reasons,

the AMC staff is no longer allowed to give out long-term flight dates, according to Vasiliades. “If a client calls, I can tell them that I have a flight going out this week, or I may be able to tell them that I have a flight leaving within 72 hours. But I can’t give them information on flights for other AMC sites. However, the SATO office has a list of all the flights, so we encourage people to stop there and see when we fly.”

The Installation Transportation Office, located in the Central Processing Facility, also has a list of Space A flights leaving Aviano.

Because of mission requirements, AMC flights are subject to change without notice. Travelers of Space-A, should be flexible, pack light, be prepared for all types of weather and keep sufficient funds available in the event they have to purchase alternate travel.

The closest AMC for Caserma Ederle personnel is Aviano Air Base, about a two-hour drive from Caserma Ederle. Free long-term parking is available on Aviano, according to Vasiliades.

Caserma Ederle also arranges free shuttle service to Aviano for Soldiers traveling on official orders, however, just like the shuttle service to commercial airports, it’s only available on a Space A basis for those traveling without orders. Call the Installation Transportation Office at 634-6916 or off-post at 0444-71-6916 for details.

For more information about traveling Space A, contact the AMC at Aviano at DSN 632-7680, or off-post at 0434-30-7680.

There is also the unofficial, but very helpful, Web site: *www.spacea.info*.

Space A travel tips

- Sign up early for the flight. Keep in mind, you must be on leave status when signing up and flying space-A.
- Remember that you must pay for Space-A tickets by cash or check.
- Ensure you have enough funds to buy a plane ticket home, in case you get stuck.
- No pets allowed.
- Dress appropriately for your destination, but also bring off-season clothes, in case your jet’s diverted.
- Be ready to travel when your name is called.
- Take no more than two checked bags, weighing no more than 70 pounds a piece.
- Know the system. Pick the brain of terminal experts and browse the Space-A web pages listed.
- Keep your travel documents, like passports and visas, current.
- Children younger than 2 years old who weigh less than 40 pounds and are less than 40 inches tall must sit in child restraint seats during takeoffs and landings.

MWR price hikes to coincide with COLA survey

Installation Management
Agency-Europe
Press Release

With the goal to continue to provide Soldiers and families with top-quality Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs, the Installation Management Agency-Europe MWR Division has announced necessary price and fee increases will take effect Wednesday.

Price changes will be for only some recreation and business programs and services within communities where adjustments are needed, and not all MWR patrons will see price increases.

The good news is the adjustment in prices is timed to coincide with the cost-of-living allowance (COLA) pricing survey this summer. Making necessary price adjustments now, rather than continuing to delay them, ensures any higher prices will be included in the COLA pricing survey.

“IMA-Europe MWR is dedicated to providing customers with the best in top-quality Army morale, welfare and recreation programs,” said Michael Cain, Chief of IMA-E MWR Division.

Department of Army program standards require that MWR programs and services must break even; some must make a profit to continually reinvest in and improve the quality-of-life MWR programs, services and facilities customers expect.

Each Area Support Group performed a rigorous review of prices for MWR recreation and business programs this spring to identify problem areas and determine the degree of price adjustment needed.

Senior leaders understood that price adjustments are necessary to ensure all MWR programs meet profitability goals and remain financially healthy.

Final pricing increases will be determined and approved within

each local community. Some areas may see no price increase at all.

Cain said MWR, which has held the line on raising prices even as costs increase, cannot continue to defer necessary price increases any further and affect customers’ wallets in the long run.

Also timed to coincide with the COLA survey, IMA-Europe MWR Child and Youth Services fees will increase beginning Sept. 1, for all communities.

CYS fees will be adjusted in every program and category to comply with the current Department of Defense Child Development Program fee ranges based on family income levels.

The intent of the DOD fee policy is for every family to spend approximately the same percentage of its income for child care. The scale is based on total family income (including wages and allowances, but without cost-of-living allowance/post allowance), not on rank or grade.

In reality, CYS fees generally cover only half the actual cost of Army child care provided to each child.

Fees paid by families cover only the costs for salaries and training of the staff who work directly with children and youth; appropriated funds provided by Congress pay for all other costs, such as facilities, administration, equipment, supplies and food.

The multiple child discount of 10 percent for child care, school-age services, and CYS team sports will remain in effect.

Discounts for head coaches and parent and teen CYS volunteers will continue to be available in communities where approved.

The annual CYS registration fee is an Army-wide standard fee, valid for a 12-month period regardless of Army assignment or re-stationing.

Further information on IMA-E MWR in Europe is available at *www.mwr-europe.com*.

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Injury doesn't deter Soldier from reenlisting

Story and photo
By Pfc. Jon H. Arguello
CJTF-76 Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—A paratrooper from the 173rd Combat Support Company reenlisted recently as he lay in bed with a bullet hole in his left foot.

The combat engineer attached to Task Force Rock was shot in the foot during a patrol with Battle Company, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne).

"We were on a patrol when we heard gun fire," said recently-promoted Spc. Aaron Pace. "I dove behind a rock and that's when the bullet hit me."

But the injury couldn't deter Pace from reenlisting.

"I already had my mind made up," he said. "I love being a combat engineer."

"Getting shot at is part of the job, but I still love it," he said.

Pace was the only casualty on the patrol and was treated quickly he said.

"They were telling me 'you're gonna be okay' and I said, 'I know, it's my foot,'" Pace said. "To be honest it felt like a paint ball hitting my foot. I'm not saying I ever want to get shot again, but it didn't hurt as much as I thought it would."

Pace is exactly the type of Soldier the Army needs to keep, said 173d CSC 1st Sgt. Lauro Obeada.

"He's everything a combat engineer needs to be," Obeada said. "He's tough, determined and smart. Nothing makes me happier than knowing he's decided to stay in our company."

"It really brings it home that we're at war," said Obeada. "It makes it that much more meaningful that he reenlisted. We need more Soldiers like Pace in the Army."



Capt. Jonny Karpuk (left) reenlists combat engineer Spc. Aaron Pace in Kandahar. Pace received a bullet wound to his left foot while on patrol with Battle Company, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne) in Afghanistan.

Memorial visit prompts personal reflection

By Sgt. Maj. Richard Weik
SETAF Rear Detachment
Command Sergeant Major
Special to the Outlook

During a visit to the Anzio/ Nettuno American cemetery to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the historic landing there to rid Italy and Europe of Nazi fascist tyranny, I met two individuals who placed a lot of things into perspective, and gave me a moment of reflection.

The first individual I met showed up at the cemetery early – about 7:30 a.m., even though the ceremony didn't begin until 11 a.m.

As Maj. Gen. Steven Zabecki and I attempted to speak with the elderly gentleman, who spoke no English, he began to cry.

He was Italian, and through an interpreter, told us that he had been a prisoner in the extermination/ work camp in Dachau, Germany.

Holding our hands and crying on our shoulders, he told us that he comes to the cemetery every year to thank America for liberating him, and saving his life by giving theirs.

"I knew the Americans would come," he said.

Together, the three of us gazed out at more than 7,000 white marble crosses and Stars of David. Then we saw the additional 3,000 names of missing Soldiers. And this is just one cemetery.

I then met a 91-year-old American gentleman who had fought with the 91st Division, and another retiree who had fought in the 3rd Division.

The first gentleman spoke of his fellow 91st Division brothers-in-arms who protected the rear and flanks during some of the most vicious fighting in Europe.

The elderly man from the 3rd Division came looking for the graves of his friends and pay his respects. He had not been back to Anzio since the war ended.

He spoke softly saying, "I am walking here because of some of those men who are sleeping here."

My conversations with these retired Soldiers gave me something to think about on the long journey back to Vicenza.

As the Rear Detachment, we are the security for our brothers and

sisters "rear and flanks."

When they have a problem, we need to ensure they know that "we will come."

Step up to the plate when you can and help your neighbors.

The next time you are feeling sorry for yourself and begin griping about this or that, reflect on where you are, as compared to where our deployed Warriors are, and I hope your inconveniences will seem petty at best.

Take the time to do what is right, especially when no one is around to observe you.

We are the leaders – be it military or civilian – of this Rear Detachment. The rank and titles we wear are badges of servitude. Servitude to Soldiers and their families.

Ten thousand of our brethren are quietly sleeping in the Anzio/ Nettuno cemetery.

They went voluntarily and gave abundantly. Five of our Soldiers are doing the same for action in Afghanistan.

Let us honor them with our dedication and determination to their "rear and flanks."

Fun for all ages at Aloha luau



Girls in the 6-to-9 age group compete in the Hula Hoop contest held at the Aloha Luau May 21. Aloha Luau, sponsored by AAFES, was one of the celebrations held on Caserma Ederle to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage month. Other activities included Caribbean dances, food-tasting, and games for all ages. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook staff)



Photo of Anzio Cemetery courtesy of Spc. Scott Sheard

Military facilities restructuring underway across Europe

Realignment from page 1

reflect concrete threats. "We live in a world of uncertainty," he said. "We can predict with a certain degree of certainty that in the coming years we will need to use our military forces. ... What we cannot predict is where, when or in what manner we may need to use those forces."

Returning heavier forces as well as administrative and support functions to the United States will help increase the flexibility of the U.S. armed forces and their ability to respond quickly as necessary, he said.

Plans for what has been called the most significant rethinking of U.S. overseas military posture in more than 50 years have been coordinated "every step of the way," Henry said.

They reflect input from regional combatant commanders, interagency partners, Congress, U.S. ambassadors and U.S. allies and partners, he said.

At the same time, the process is being conducted in a way that dovetails with several other initiatives under way: the department's Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations; a mobility capabilities review expected this summer; and the Quadrennial Defense Review.

Coordinating these efforts will prevent gaps in military capabilities as well as infrastructure and quality-of-life programs for troops and their families, DuBois said. "It's a complex set of moves, and they are all interrelated," he said.

Throughout the planning, quality-of-life programs have remained a top priority, Henry said.

"We in DoD realize that the No. 1 resource we have in the department are the fighting men and women ... and their families who support them," he said. "They are the one asset that we want to make sure we optimize."

Tom Ellinger: *The man who never left school*



The early days: Dr. Thomas Ellinger as principal of Hanau High School, Germany, in 1976. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Tom Ellinger)

Story and photos by Megan Gafford
Special to the Outlook

Most people spend about 12 to 16 years attending school. One man, however, has apparently enjoyed it so much, that he's spent more than 40 years going to school.

That man is Dr. Thomas Ellinger, the Department of Defense Dependents School Mediterranean District superintendent. However, the time has come for his school days to end and he will be closing the books at DoDDS at the end of this school year.

But before saying farewell, he is taking a tour of the schools under his jurisdiction. Vicenza High School was on his "farewell tour" April 29, where he showed up as a "new student." Tall and slim, wearing a shirt and tie, "Tommy" Ellinger was given a schedule and sent off to find his way.

His day began on a less-than-spectacular note, as his first class was Junior ROTC where Maj. George Smailes criticized him for his military inadequacies.

As he made his way through the day, he was confronted by many typical first-day-of-school problems: he was late for class, he went to the wrong class, he was sent to the principal's office for wearing a hat indoors and talking on his cell phone.

He ended the day with a report card, which, surprisingly, had good marks, and a slideshow of pictures of his day.

Ellinger, who holds a doctorate in education from the University of Miami, Fla., has worked at all levels of DoDDS hierarchy. He has been an elementary school teacher, a high school counselor, an administrator at all school levels, and a district superintendent in the Korea District, the Turkey/Spain/Isles

District, and now the Mediterranean District.

While in Korea, he received the Department of the Army Decoration of Meritorious Service for exceptional service in 1991, and was featured in the National Superintendents' Journal, *The School Administrator*, in 1993.

Ellinger's first experience in DODDS was that of a fifth grade teacher at a set of barracks converted into Machinato Elementary School in Okinawa, Japan.

"Approximately 400 folks made up of military families and DoDDS teachers departed by ship for an 18-day trip from San Francisco to Okinawa on Aug. 3, 1960. We had a grand time. Everyone became acquainted; we received our teaching assignments, we rehearsed and performed the musical 'South Pacific'; enjoyed good meals and made a day and half stopover in Yokohama, Japan, allowing us an overnight trip to Tokyo," Ellinger said of his first DoDDS experience.

When he wasn't sailing across the Pacific, Ellinger was flying to and from the U.S. to attend meetings and conferences during his 16-year stay in Korea.

"In those early years, we had very little money for TDY so the commanders in Korea allowed me to travel to my schools by helicopter and small military aircraft. I have been a superintendent since 1980 and have probably clocked more than four million air miles during that time. On the long flights to the States, I was fortunate once or twice to be able to assist the flight attendants in serving drinks in the galley in the back of the plane," laughed Ellinger.

His most memorable moment in DoDDS was when he was the superintendent of the Turkey/Spain/Bahrain/Portugal District.

"I had the good fortune of visiting the Amir of Bahrain, [Sheikh Isa], in one of his palaces. We discussed education, peace prospects in the Middle East and U.S. foreign policy. It was a very memorable experience for me. A number of the Amir's family had actually attended our Bahrain school," reminisced Ellinger.

Throughout his career in DoDDS, Ellinger has worked with many students and faculty in DoDDS who have touched his life in a special way.

"I have been extremely fortunate in working with excellent teachers and administrators throughout my career. They have become a part of my overseas family," said Ellinger.

His most memorable experience with DoDDS students was when he was starting a new high school in Hanau, Germany.

"The students assisted the teachers and me in writing the school song, picking out the school colors, writing course descriptions, celebrating our first football victories, and ensuring that the school received accreditation," said Ellinger, "It was a thrill for me to go to a Hanau High reunion ten years later and see the fine young men and women graduates who shared with me their professional and family accomplishments.

"Occasionally I have the good fortune of seeing former graduates," he said. "Shand Mayville, wife of Colonel Mayville, SETAF deputy



Dr. Thomas Ellinger (right), superintendent of DoDDS Mediterranean District, is off to a bad start when Maj. George Smailes, Junior ROTC director, good-naturedly criticizes Ellinger for his lack of military knowledge. Ellinger went back to school April 29 as "Tommy Ellinger."



Dr. Ellinger (left) uses his classic "Frankfurt Defense" against an aggressive young challenger during a chess match at lunch in the Vicenza Schools cafeteria. Seated next to Ellinger and McGuire are Vicenza Middle School teacher and Chess Club sponsor, George Hanby, who is playing another student. Hanby allowed the retiring Dr. Ellinger the one time only opportunity to move his King as many spaces as he wanted for his final play of the game – calling it the "Superintendent's Option" move.

commander, is one of my Hanau High graduates."

Ellinger leaves behind a legacy in every community that he has lived in. He has volunteered for a multitude of organizations and activities such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and USO. He has also published many articles in national journals such as *Phi Delta Kappa*, *APPAN*, *The Executive Educator*, and *Foreign Service Journal*, and was a guest columnist in the English-speaking newspaper, *The Korean Herald*.

Before he and wife, Liz, settle down in Jacksonville, Fla., they have planned a cruise to Mexico in October with 100 other DoDDS retirees. But don't expect retirement to slow him down too much.

"You may see me as a Wal-Mart greeter...and possibly teaching a course or two at the local university. I definitely want to volunteer at one of the local schools or hospitals and be able to make a small contribution to society," he said.

Ellinger leaves behind these words of wisdom: "Learning in life is a long endeavor. The completion for jobs is becoming keener and keener. Take rigorous courses and ensure you maintain a positive vision for your future."

"If you make decisions on the basis of what is good for children, you will never go wrong. Always take time to listen to students, teachers, and parents," he added.



Ellinger checks the temperature of the ice while making ice cream in science class. Ellinger played "student" April 29 at Vicenza High School.



The Vicenza Elementary School fourth to sixth graders 'All Star Choir' sing the 'Salute to the United States of America' arranged by Sandy Feldstein at the Vicenza Schools concert May 24.

Vicenza High School concert strikes right notes

Story and photos by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

The last Vicenza High School Concert of the year was held at the VHS gym May 24 in the presence of parents, teachers and many community members.

The concert featured the beginning, intermediate and advanced bands, the VHS chorus, a violin and flute duet, a flute sextet, clarinet sextet and a string ensemble.

The concert ended with the performance of soloists from the advanced band who performed a Dixieland Jam and then, the Intermediate Band, together with the Advanced Band and Chorus performed Patriotic Festival, a group of traditional pieces arranged by composer Mark Williams.



The String Ensemble performs along with Music Director Geri Shimabukuro at the Vicenza High School concert May 24.

Out & About

By Dorothy Spagnuolo

Medieval events

Near the castle of Peraga, in the town of *Vigonza*, province of Padova, the medieval event ‘*6th Festa di Bonaventura Da Peraga Beato e Martire*’ the (6th Festival of Bonaventura of Peraga, beatified and marty) will take place this weekend.

On Saturday events kick off at 6:30 p.m. with the opening of the food stands, the military encampment and the medieval market; at 9:30 p.m. will be a medieval battle.

The main events on Sunday start at 9:30 a.m. with a crossbow competition, the opening of the medieval market with the tradespersons dressed in medieval costume, a visit to a military encampment, and at 4:30 p.m. the historical parade. The festvities and games begin at 6 p.m.in the castle, also find an exhibition of medieval toy soldiers. At 10 p.m. will be the ‘lighting’ of the castle.

The town of Vigonza is located 41 km east from Vicenza.

Another medieval event will take place in the town of Santa Maria di Sala Saturday and Sunday.

The town, which is located between Padova and Treviso, will be filled minstrels singing tales of life at court, six local districts will compete for a Palio and medieval banquets will revive the dining traditions of the period.

The night-time festivities, ‘Feste Cortesi’ will include theatrical displays and fireworks that involve spectators in the show. There will also be medieval-style markets, artisans, games among the children of the various districts and taverns serving dishes from the Middle Ages.

Program: Saturday, events start at 6 p.m. with the opening of the medieval market and military encampment; 8 p.m. a medieval banquet; 9:30 p.m. medieval event ‘Dies Armorum, Dies Festus’.

Sunday at 5:30 p.m., the medieval market and military encampment open; 6:30 p.m. puppet show; 7 p.m. weapon game; 8 p.m. medieval banquet; 9:30 p.m. ‘playing with fire’; 10 p.m. medieval ballet and light and firework display.

The town is located by exiting the A4 at Padova Est and taking the

SS 515 in direction for S. Maria di Sala. Details are available from the Pro Loco of S. Maria di Sala, call or fax: 041 487560; e-mail: *info@prolocitalia. it* or Web site: *www.prolocoitalia.it* in Italian only.

The town of *San Martino di Lupari*, 30 km from Vicenza, will be holding their annual ‘*Palio dei Lupi*,’ Sunday.

Events start in the morning with the opening of a market. Watch games and races through the woods, there’s a historical procession, and food tents.

Italian Moto Grand Prix

The Italian Moto GP at the *Autodromo Internazionale del Mugello* takes place Wednesday through Sunday.

Sunday is the big day when the race, which is one of the fastest and most thrilling sports in the world, will see the bikes reach speeds of up to 310 kph.

Unlike Formula One racing, overtaking is frequent, the riders take the bravest lines to weave through the field and when the bikes close on each other they push it to the limit.

For information on who is riding, tickets and more go to website *www.mugellocircuit.it*. The racing track is about 20 minutes from the center of Florence.

Classical music in Teatro Olimpico

The following classical music concerts will be held in the Teatro Olimpico in Vicenza:

Sunday – music by Mozart and Schumann

Monday – Mozart and Brahms

June 9 – ‘Don Giovanni’ by Mozart with a repeat performance on June 12. All performances start at 8 p.m. and tickets are 15 Euro for adults over 25; under age 25 it’s 10 Euro. Purchase tickets at the box office at the Theatre Tuesday-Sunday from 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

Telephone numbers

Need to phone a restaurant, individual, bank or other in Italy and haven’t got the phone number? Telephone numbers are easily

accessible by going on the web page *www.info412.it*, it is only in Italian, but is easy to use.

For example, I need the telephone number of Saxophone music store downtown Vicenza: type Saxophone in the *Cognome/ Ragione Sociale* block (Last name/organization bloc), and in the *provincia* (city) find VI for Vicenza, press enter, and the number and address appears.

Antique markets

The following antique markets are open this Sunday:

Brugline (Padova): Villa Roberti on Via Roma over 200 stalls open from 8:30 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Badoere (Treviso): Flea market under the arches of the Rotonda, with over 125 stalls open from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m., there’s no market during the month of August.

Noventa Vicentina (Vicenza): In Piazza Municipale, find 100 stalls open.

Town fairs

Nearly every town has a ‘Sagra’ and in Costozza, near Longare their’s is happening Sunday.

Others are: June 12 in Nanto; June 25 and 26 in the towns of Arcugnano and Mossano; June 26 in Campiglia and Montegalda.

‘Knot of Love’ festa

A tiny knot of pasta linked to a romantic legend will be the guest of honor at a super-banquet June 21 in the village of Borghetto, Valeggio sul Mincio, province of Verona. The 1.5 km banquet table stretches along the Visconti Bridge which crosses the Mincio River.

Twenty-five restaurants and staff will work the event, serving up to 600,000 tortellini and some 4,000 bottles of Custoza and Bardolino wine.

The event ‘*festa del Nodo d’Amore*,’ requires booking for the meal that starts at 7 p.m.

For tickets, visit the Website: *www.valeggio.com*, click on the banner ARV (Associazione Ristoratori di Valeggio sul Mincio). The pro-loco, tourist agency, where English is spoken, can assist with booking at 045-795-1880 or e-mail *tourist@valeggio.com*.



AAFES facilities in Vicenza change hours of operation

Facility	New hours of operation until January 2006
Main store	– Mon-Sat: 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Thurs: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Sun.: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Shoppette	– Mon-Fri: 5 a.m.-10 p.m., weekends: 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
Villaggio Shoppette	– Daily: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Car Care Center	– Mon-Fri: 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Closed weekends
Military Clothing Sales	– Mon-Fri: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sat: 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Closed Sundays
Subway	– Mon-Fri: 10 a.m.-8 p.m., weekends: 11a.m.-8 p.m.
Burger King	– Mon-Thurs: 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Fri: 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Sat: 7 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Popeye’s	– Mon-Fri: 7:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat: 10a.m.-7 p.m., Sun:10a.m.-6 p.m.
Taco Bell and Anthony’s pizza	– Mon-Sat: 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun: 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Charley’s and Baskin-Robbins	– Mon-Sat: 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun: 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Cinnabon	– Mon-Fri: 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m., weekends: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Barbershop (PX)	– Mon-Sat: 8 a.m.-6 p.m., closed Sundays
Beauty shop (PX)	– Tues-Wed:11 a.m.-6 p.m., Thurs:11 a.m.-7 p.m., Fri-Sat: 11 a.m.- 6 p.m., Closed Sun, Mon.
One hour photo/Gift shop/ Gold shop/Furniture store	– Tues-Sat: 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Closed Sun, Mon.
Optical shop	– Mon-Sat: 11 a.m.-5 p.m., closed Sunday.
Laundry/Dry cleaning	– Mon-Fri: 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Closed Sunday
Family Hair care	– Mon-Wed: 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri-Sat: 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Closed Thursday and Sunday
Cell phone shop	– Mon-Sat: 10 a.m.-6 p.m , Sun: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Flower shop	– Mon-Fri: 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat: 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Closed Sunday
Tailor shop	– Mon-Fri: 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Sat: 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Closed Sunday

Now Showing

Caserma Ederle Theater

June 1	Ice Princess (G)	5 p.m.
	Hostage (R)	7 p.m.
June 2	The Ring 2 (PG13)	7 p.m.
June 3	Saraha (PG13)	7 p.m.
	Hostage (R)	10 p.m.
June 4	Sahara (PG13)	2 p.m.
	Robots PG	7 p.m.
	Saraha (PG13)	10 p.m.
June 5	Robots (PG)	2 p.m.
	Saraha (PG13)	7 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

June 3	Beauty Shop (PG13)	7 p.m.
June 4	Because of Winn Dixie (PG)	7 p.m.

Movie Synopsis

ICE PRINCESS - *Michelle Trachtenberg, Joan Cusack*. Casey has never quite fit in. Caught between her fantasy of becoming a championship figure skater and her strong-willed mother, who has her on the fast track to Harvard, she can only hope to be like Nikki, Tiffany and Gen - three elite skating prodigies who are ruthlessly competing on the US National circuit. Casey takes on the challenge of her life when she finds herself competing against the best to make it into the championship circuit and become a real “ice princess.”

HOSTAGE - *Bruce Willis, Kevin Pollak*. Jeff Talley, a former LAPD hostage negotiator, has moved himself away from his failed career outside of Los Angeles, and away from his wife and daughter. When a convenience store robbery goes wrong in his turf, the three perpetrators move in on an unsuspecting family. But the family’s father has a secret which might compromise his kin, and one of the criminals is about to jump over the edge. Jeff Talley has to get everybody to survive the night.....if he can.

THE RING 2 - *Naomi Watts, Simon Baker*. Sequel to the horror flick The Ring, Naomi Watts reprises her role as Rachel Keller, who, six months after the events of the first film, moves to Astoria, Ore., with her son, Aidan, to escape their memories of what happened in Seattle. When a few locals start dying, however, and a strange videotape reappears, Rachel becomes aware that the creepy Samara is back and after Aidan.

SAHARA–*Matthew McConaughey, Penelope Cruz*. Master explorer Dirk Pitt takes on the adventure of his life when he embarks on a treasure hunt through some of the most dangerous regions of North Africa. Searching for what locals call “The Ship of Death”, a long lost Civil War battleship filled with coins, Pitt and his wisecracking sidekick use their wits and clever heroics to help Doctor Eva Rojas who believes the ship may be linked to mysterious deaths in the very same area.

ROBOTS - *Animated with voices of Ewan McGregor, Halle Berry, Robin Williams*. Rodney Copperbottom is an idealistic robot who wants to convince his electronic brethren to come together and work toward making the world a better place. As the story unfolds, he falls for a female executive robot, faces opposition from an evil corporation headed by Big Weld and finds some unlikely allies in the form of a ragtag group of misfit robots called the Rusties.

BEAUTY SHOP - *Queen Latifah, Alicia Silverstone*. Gina Norris is a long way from the Barbershop - she’s moved to Atlanta so her gifted daughter can attend a prestigious music school and made a name for herself at a posh salon. But when her egotistical boss takes credit for her work, she leaves the salon to open a shop of her own. Gina buys a rundown salon and inherits a motley group of headstrong stylists, a colorful clientele, and a sexy piano-playing electrician.

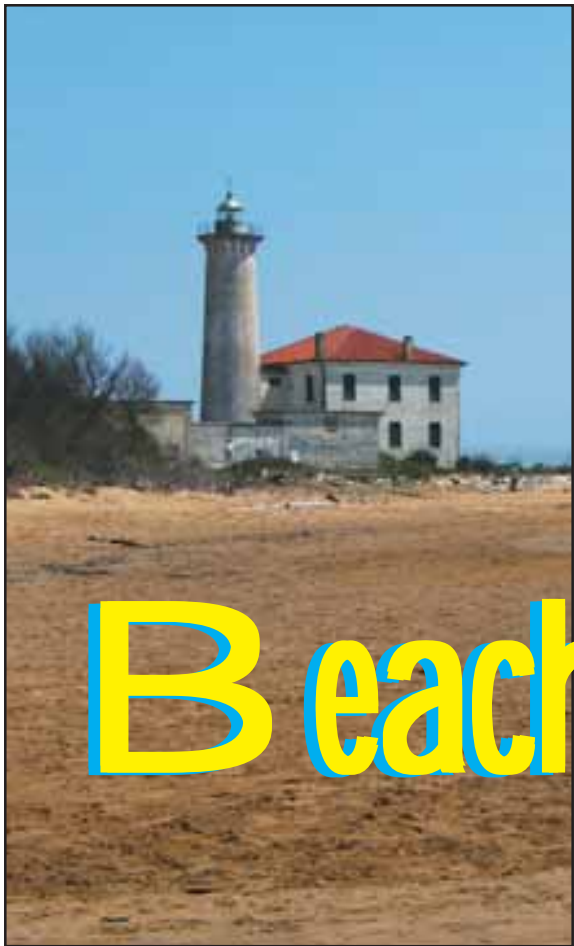
BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE - *Jeff Daniels, Cicely Tyson*. A 10-year-old girl, abandoned by her mother when she was three, moves to a small town in Florida wirh her father, a preacher. She also adopts a stray dog whom she names after the local supermarket where she finds him. With her goofy pooch by her side, she meets an eclectic group of townspeople, and re-kindles an almost lost relationship with her father.

Admission: Adults age 12 and over \$4, children \$2.
The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time.
Tickets to blockbuster shows are presold at Baskin Robbins.

Is it all Greek to you?

If you need help with a translation, you have two options:
You can call the Family Readiness Center at 634-7969,

or off post at 0444-71-7969 and ask for a volunteer translator.
Or you can call Military OneSource toll-free at 800-3429-6477.



Above: The *Faro*, lighthouse, located at the east end of the *Bibione* beach. It was built at the beginning of 1900s. (Photo courtesy of Leda Kreider) Below: Some umbrellas are lined up on the shore near the church of *Madonna dell'Angelo*, Madonna of the Angel, in Caorle.



Originally, this church was dedicated to the Archangel Michael.
Right: Some fishing items dry on the shore in Caorle at sunset.



Above: The bell tower stands near the church of *Madonna dell'Angelo*. According to a legend, the name of the church changed because some fishermen while fishing saw a little wooden statue representing a Madonna floating in the sea. Right: A detail of a battle in ancient Rome, one of the sand sculptures created during a past edition of an event called *Castelli di Sabbia*, Sand Castles, which Jesolo hosts every summer on the beach.



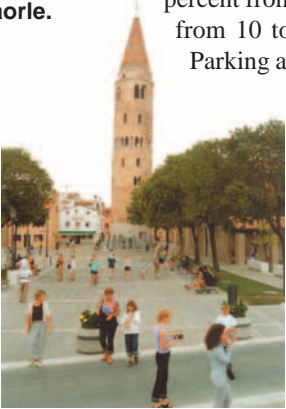
Above: The wide beach of Bibione offers several services such as rental for about 18,000 umbrellas, six emergency points and free exercise/dance programs .



Story and photos by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff



Above: A girl creates a jelly fish on the shore of Bibione. The beach with a golden sand is about eight km. long and 300 mt. wide.
Below: Tourists walk in the *Piazza Vescovado*, in downtown Caorle, where the unique cylindrical bell tower built in 1070 stands near the *San Stefano* Cathedral. Far below: A boats sits anchored on the shore in Caorle.



One of the morphological peculiarities of Italy is that as a peninsula it is surrounded by coasts, approximately 4,500 miles. Some of them are characterized by promontories and rocks, while others are simply long strand of sand. The *Veneto* Region itself offers about 120 km. of 'golden' sand and part of its coast includes the lagoon with Venice and other renowned resorts, such as *Bibione*, *Caorle*, *Chioggia*, *Eraclea*, *Sottomarina*, *Jesolo*. Resorts that are now visited annually by thousands of tourists were in the far past isolated lands in the lagoon reached by a migration of people who were trying to escape some massive barbarian invasions. Only at the end of the 19th century, a slow economic development started again after some events affected the lagoon, which followed first the rising *Serenissima*, the Republic of Venice, but also its decline when Napoleon Bonaparte's troops occupied this land in the late 1700s.

Caorle is an example of how close relationship the town built with Venice, for it offers a historical area rich in atmosphere and monuments with its *campi* and *calli* - small squares and narrow streets - that remind tourists of the streets' Venetian configuration. The beach resorts, one of which is Caorle are nowadays considered a 'golden' sand destination, with several facilities and services. The summer season starts around the second week of May, when most of the hotels, apartments and campsites open and the local tourist boards get their umbrellas and chairs out for those who are interested in getting their *tintarella*, suntan. The beach is not only for those who lay in the sun, but also many sport events and activities are scheduled throughout all the summer. Some of the upcoming events that will take place in Jesolo include the annual 'Art Walls' held at the *Oasi Verde Pineta* in *Jesolo Lido* from June 16 to 19. Here, artists work on their pictures in the open-air. An international event is the Festival of Sand Castles, which attracts sand sculptors from all over the world. This year's theme is inspired by Hollywood. The opening day will be June 19 and then the sculptures will be on display until the end of July. For information about accommodations and events there are some web sites in English www.turismojesoloeracles.it, www.jesolo.it, www.caorlevacanze.it. By clicking on the Accommodation section, it may give the chance to find out about special offers, usually for a minimum stay of at least three nights. Most of the hotels, offer special reductions for children, free under 2, 50 percent from 2 to 10 years old, and 20 percent from 10 to 14, in a room with two adults.

Parking and private beach are included. For those who plan on spending just the day at the beach, a few expenses may include the cost of the umbrella and chairs. Some areas at the beach are free and visitors can bring their own umbrella. Before making up your mind for the right spot, look for a sign *Spiaggia Libera*, free beach, the only area where pets are permitted.